



Change will be possible when ALL the stakeholders feel the urgency for new ways of teaching and learning.

SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION...BE THE BUZZ!

A State-wide Conference for High School Youth & Adult Teams

November 12, 2010

Goddard College

- **How do we create a compelling case for change?**
- **How do we engage the community in transformation efforts?**
- **What strategies will help people re-imagine schooling?**
- **How do we use student developed action research to inform transformation?**

If you want to find out the answers to these questions....read on and register soon - space is limited!

What is this day about?

The first critical step in high school transformation is helping our school communities understand the need for change. Change will be possible when ALL stakeholders - students, teachers, school boards, parents and the community at large - feel the urgency for new ways of teaching and learning.



Members of Vermont's "Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together" initiative are "Being the Buzz". They will share engaging activities they are using, including ...



- + Why do schools need to transform? 3 great reasons!
- + Why Should Students be Players in Change?
- + How can "Rigor, Relevance, Relationship & Responsibility" make our school more engaging?
- + What Does a Transformed School Look Like?

Participants will leave informed and inspired after a day of taking part in these strategies. They will also leave with a "Tool Kit" of activities, videos, dialogue options and readings to open the door to school-wide transformation in their own communities.

Who should come?

Anyone who believes that youth and adults can work together to make their schools more engaging places to learn and grow, but is not sure how to make this happen. Ideally, a high school will send a team comprised of teachers, students, the principal, and school board members. If you are interested in becoming a YATST school in 2011-12, this is an excellent opportunity to explore this possibility.



What is “Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together”?



The goal of YATST high school teams is to “increase student engagement in learning and voice in decision-making by creating a partnership between students, faculty and the community to increase rigor, relevance, relationships and responsibility in Vermont schools”.

The teams utilize an action research model, identifying strengths, areas of concern and a direction for change based on school data. A recent Nellie Mae Educational Foundation “Catalyst for Change” grant has afforded the opportunity for 15 student YATST members to receive in-depth facilitator training from National CFG trainer, Daniel Baron. A “Tool Kit” has also been developed for their use, which will be fully accessible to conference participants. YATST youth will play a significant role in facilitating this conference, modeling the integral role young people can and should play in change efforts.

Logistics:

Location: Haybarn Theater, Goddard College, Plainfield, VT

Time: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Cost: \$25 students; \$75 adults

Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/BetheBuzz>

Space is limited to 110 participants. Please register by November 5 at the latest. Early registration is recommended.

Sponsored by: The “Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together” Initiative of the Vermont Rural Partnership

Partner: Vermont Department of Education

For further information, contact Helen Beattie at hnbeattie@gmail.com or call 802-472-5127.

“There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about”.

Margaret Wheatley
“Turning to One Another”, 2002.